

Justice Taney from the slave state of Maryland, the Supreme Court stated that since a slave was private property, a slave could be taken into the territories and held there—regardless of what Congress or the territorial legislatures ruled. The Supreme Court effectively declared unconstitutional the already repealed but still honored Missouri Compromise which forbade slavery north of 36° 30'.

The Dred Scott ruling did not put to rest the debate over slavery. Instead, the Supreme Court, in *Dred Scott v. Sanford*, acerbated the tensions between the foes of slavery and the Southern slave holders. Abolitionists challenged the Supreme Court's authority to rule on slavery in the territories while Southerners were incensed by their contempt for the Court's ruling. The bitterness between the North and the South over the issue of slavery intensified in the wake of the Dred Scott decision and four years later the Civil War erupted.

Mr. Speaker, Dred Scott was a slave whose courage helped to forever change the course of this nation's history. Those who visit the Old Courthouse in the City of St. Louis will benefit from a public plaque commemorating his fight for freedom.

HONORING CENTURYTEL AND
MOTOROLA'S COMMITMENT TO
THE VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIO-
LENCE

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, domestic violence is a very serious crime that affects families and communities throughout the nation. That is why I am very pleased to congratulate CenturyTel and Motorola for their Wireless Alliance for Safe Families initiative that will be announced on June 30, 1998 in Lansing, Michigan.

It is estimated that over four million women each year are abused by their husbands or partners, with many victims of abuse struggling to rebuild their lives because of fear.

CenturyTel and Motorola are teaming up in Michigan to provide an extraordinary service for victims of domestic abuse. Through the use of cellular phones donated by Motorola and local cellular service contributed by CenturyTel, Michigan will now have a program which gives victims of domestic violence access to cellular phones in case an emergency develops.

This program will be a very important part of giving countless domestic victims and their families a new sense of security in their daily lives. Without the strong commitment of CenturyTel and Motorola this service would not be possible.

The work of CenturyTel and Motorola is an important local symbol of what can be accomplished through partnerships between the public and private sectors. I applaud the commitment CenturyTel and Motorola have shown regarding the critical issue of domestic violence and I am proud to join in supporting this new initiative in Michigan.

FORCED CLOSURE OF CENTER FOR
VICTIMS OF TORTURE IN TURKEY

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow marks the observance of United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture.

As Co-Chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, I am particularly disturbed by the recent forced closure of the Diyarbakir Representation Office by Turkish Authorities. The Office had just opened by the Human Rights Foundation of Turkey on June 13, 1998, with the aim of assisting victims of torture in the southeastern region of Turkey. The Foundation operates similar treatment and rehabilitation centers in Ankara, Izmir, Istanbul, and Adana. Since 1990, these centers have assisted over 3,000 torture victims and have gained national and international respect. The unwarranted closure of the Diyarbakir center by the authorities only four days after it opened is but the latest form of harassment directed against those seeking to provide professional help to victims of torture in Turkey.

I call upon the Government of Turkey to stop its campaign of harassment and intimidation of human rights non-governmental organizations, including the Human Rights Foundation. If Prime Minister Yilmaz is serious about ending torture in Turkey, Mr. Speaker, he should redirect the resources of the state to vigorously prosecute those responsible for acts of torture.

COMMEMORATING 100 YEARS OF
THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGI-
NEERS

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, 100 years ago, Captain J.J. Meyler led a small group from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to construct a breakwater in San Pedro Bay. From this initial project, the Corps of Engineers helped develop and maintain what is now the busiest port in the United States and the largest port complex in the Western Hemisphere. These unsung heroes helped make Southern California an engine of economic growth for the entire Nation. Their designs and efforts have provided protection to the residents and businesses of this area for the past century.

The construction of the San Pedro breakwater led to a new period of sustained growth for the Los Angeles-Long Branch area. The Port of Long Beach is now the busiest port in the Nation and—if they were combined—the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach would be the largest port complex in the Western Hemisphere. This work led to the establishment of rail links tying Southern California first to San Francisco, and then to the rest of the Nation. It also served as the foundation for the development of industry which would put Los Angeles and the surrounding communities at the forefront of the American economic expansion.

Although the Corps of Engineers has been intimately involved in the ever increasing capacity of the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles, it has provided—much as it has for the entire Nation—numerous other benefits to Southern California. The Corps has constructed flood control channels and shoreline protection to provide a safer place to live and work for millions of people. The Corps built barracks, medical facilities, headquarters, and other important structures that served hundreds of thousands of servicemen at military bases throughout the State during the First and Second World Wars, the Korean War, the Vietnam war, and the cold war with the Soviet Union.

Over time, the national role of the Corps of Engineers in regulatory policy has allowed the Corps to play a broader role in California. The Corps provides valuable assistance in evaluating requests for construction around navigable waters and in the protection of wetlands. The Corps works to maintain safe areas for commercial and recreational boating, including access for passenger service to Catalina Island.

The people of Southern California—and the Nation—owe much to the Corps of Engineers for their dedicated service, hard work, and benefits they provide for all of us. For more than two centuries, the Corps of engineers has served to preserve and protect this Nation. I want to congratulate the men and women of the Corps for their many achievements throughout this country and overseas, and to give particular thanks to the members of the Corps for their 100 years of service to Southern California. Happy anniversary.

REVEREND ROBERT O. SIMPSON: A
POINT-OF-LIGHT FOR ALL AMER-
ICANS

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great deal of pleasure that I pay tribute to an exceptionally dedicated and benevolent spiritual leader—the Reverend Robert O. Simpson. Reverend Simpson will be honored on Saturday, June 27, 1998 at a gala concert celebrating his 25th anniversary of service to Janes United Methodist Church. Reverend Robert O. Simpson is a great Point-of-Light who has changed the face of Janes United Methodist Church through his moral guidance and unwavering commitment to the community.

"Rev. Bob," as he is affectionately called by his parishioners, was appointed as minister of Janes United Methodist Church on July 1, 1973. During his tenure Reverend Simpson has seen significant change in the church. Through it all, one thing remains the same—his enduring dedication to the church and its members. His commitment to the mission of outreach has brought several distinguished men and women to join the church. Since 1973, under the ministry of Reverend Simpson, the active membership of the Janes United Methodist Church has tripled.

Reverend Simpson's greatest challenge as pastor was the rebuilding of Janes United Methodist Church following the November 10, 1984 fire that destroyed the 100 year old building. Through his dynamic leadership, the